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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

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# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

**COUNTRY** China/Hong Kong

DATE DISTR. 16 Nov. 1949

**SUBJECT** Threat of Telephone Company Strike in  
Hong Kong

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1. The Communist dominated Federation of Trade Unions in Hong Kong has picked the Telephone Company Union for a test of strength of the Hong Kong Government. The Federation is said to have selected this Union because the Telephone Company is an important but not vital utility which could go on operating for some weeks during a strike. Thus it is expected that the Hong Kong Government would not take swift decisive action at the inception of a strike.
2. The Union has incited a number of agitations during the past few months and threatened to strike on the grounds of the slapping of a worker by a foreign company official on 5 November.

Comment. The settlement on 10 November of the strike threat may well be the result of a rumor that the conference of British officials in Singapore is recommending recognition of the Chinese Communist Government, and of fear that any strike in Hong Kong will impede this recognition.

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